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ABSTRACT

This booklet (one of a series of 10 booklets in a reading project to benefit Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky) contains nine stories especially written for first graders by educators. The stories are about: illness and accidents; accident prevention; children's reactions to hospital stays; the first day of school; a death in the family; dealing with personal relationships; and similar topics. Students read the stories in the booklet and answer comprehension questions, and pledges are made by parents and friends for each question answered. The stories or story topics, which may be used in the classroom for instructional purposes and are intended to help integrate the language arts, social studies, health, and creative arts. (MG)

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KOSAIR CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL'S

READATHON

KIDS HELPING KIDS

GRADE 1

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What is it?

It is an educational project designed to benefit KOSAIR Children's Hospital. Students at each grade level (K-8) read ten stories and answer comprehension questions. Pledges are made by parents and friends for each question answered.

What are these stories about?

The stories are about: diseases; accidents; accident prevention; children's reactions to hospital stays; dealing with personal differences; etc. For older children, the topics of alcohol and drug abuse are also included. Many of these stories highlight personal triumphs.

Who reads these stories?

Any child whose teacher and parent(s) support the project.

Can children receive help with reading and answering questions?

Yes. Parents are encouraged to help their child (regardless of reading ability) read and answer the questions.

How much instructional time will this take?

Very little. Teachers simply take a child's word for his participation and record the money returned. Upon completion of the program, the teacher completes a brief checklist for any prizes earned.

BENEFITS

Reading/Writing Experience

These stories are interesting and educationally sound at each grade level. The questions following each selection are based on a new questioning strategy. Children will be actively engaged in the reading/writing process.

Philanthropy

Children learn to be helping members of society as they raise money for less fortunate children.

Parental Involvement/Interaction

Children will have the opportunity to discuss with parents ideas and concerns that may never have been brought out without the questions following these stories.

Integration of Subjects

Teachers may use stories or story topics in the classroom for instructional purposes. Teachers will be provided with motivational and educational strategies to accompany these stories. These ideas help integrate the language arts, social studies, health, and creative arts. Many are based on whole language ideas, and higher level thinking skills are encouraged.

Intrinsic and Extrinsic Rewards

All children will receive an achievement certificate signifying their participation in the program. Children who collect $10 or more in pledges will receive prizes for their accomplishments. Best of all, children will gain a sense of pride as they help other children.

For more information, you may write of call: Susan Ramp Ridout, Ph.D.
Division of Education
Indiana University Southeast
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Kosair Children's Hospital's

READATHON

KIDS HELPING KIDS

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STORIES WRITTEN BY EDUCATORS FROM INDIANA AND KENTUCKY

A LETTER TO THE PARENT
ABOUT THIS BOOK AND YOUR CHILD

This booklet contains stories especially written for children of your child's age. They have all been written by educators. Many of them tell of the fears and feelings these educators had when they were children. Some of them are written through the eyes of a parent.

The stories deal with topics which are sometimes difficult for us to think or talk about. Yet, these very topics are the ones which our children most desperately need to have an adult share with them. Some of the stories may make you and your child cry or feel sad. Others will lift your spirits in memorable ways. Hopefully, one or two will cause you to say, "I had those same feelings."

It is our sincere hope you will use these stories as starters for a special time of sharing with your child.

No one knows your child better than you do. Therefore, we encourage you to preview the stories before your child reads them or you read them to your child. Some stories may be best read with your child. It is, of course, your right and responsibility to exclude any story which you may feel is beyond your child's present level of maturity.

At the end of each story are questions to be answered. At your discretion, your child may either write or discuss the answers with a responsible adult. Questions which are well suited for discussion are marked with asterisks (*). Questions answered in either form may be counted toward your child's fund raising efforts for the children of Kosair.

These booklets are in their first printing. If you have suggestions or comments which would improve their effectiveness in helping future readers, please call or write to:

Susan J. Gibbs
Director of Annual Giving and Special Events
Children's Hospital Foundation
601 S. Floyd Street
Louisville, KY 40202
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A Time For Joey

Mike Harvey
Grant Line School

Joey looked out of the school room window. He was not thinking about his math. He was thinking about his dad. Joey's dad died just five days ago. He was not very old, but his heart was not strong. It just stopped working one day.

This was Thanksgiving week. Thanksgiving would not be the same this year. Everyone was sad.

" Dad is gone!" thought Joey.

Joey had many things to think about. He could not think about math or school. He did not want to think about his dad. He had been through a lot for a little boy who was only six years old.

Joey was very quiet on his first day back at school. All the kids wanted to help. Joey would not talk about his dad. Weeks went by. Joey still would not talk.

One day Joey asked to talk to his teacher. They went into the hall. Joey wanted to know more about dying. It was hard for Joey and his teacher to talk about death. His teacher was very understanding.

Joey got answers to many questions he needed to ask. The teacher tried to be a good friend. He helped Joey as much as he could. After a long time, Joey began to cry. He hugged his teacher, and they cried together. That day Joey learned it was all right to be sad. It helped to share his feelings and tears. Then he could think about math again.

Questions

1. How did Joey feel at the beginning of the story?

* 2. How did Joey feel at the end of the story?

* 3. What do you think it is like to have a parent die?

* 4. What questions do you think Joey asked about death?

* 5. How is Joey like you?

* 6. How is Joey different from you?

*7. Why couldn't Joey talk about his dad's dying?

* 8. What do you think might have happened if Joey had not been able to talk about death?

* 9. How would you treat another boy or girl who had lost a parent?

*10. What would a death in your family mean to you?

* Recommended for discussion

Wog's Mishap

Toni Tuttle
Emery O. Muncie Elementary

"Don't climb too high," shouted Mrs. Green. Her son, Wog, was running out the door to meet his friends. Spot and Bumpy were sitting on a log. They were waiting for Wog. "Let's go!" yelled Wog as he rushed over to them.

Wog was a tree frog. He lived in the woods. Tree frogs like to play in trees. Wog was no exception. Today Wog and his friends headed toward the creek. They chose a huge willow tree to play in. They climbed up in the tree and began to hop and swing around.

"Let's go higher," shouted Wog. They all hopped up to the next branch.

"WHEEW!" cried Bumpy. "This is so much fun. Look how small everything is down there."

Wog hopped up higher to get a better view. *C R A C K !* The branch broke and down . . .

down . . .

Down . . .

fell Wog.

"Oh, my leg," croaked Wog.

"Lie still," said Bumpy. "I'll stay with him. Spot, you go for help!"

The ant colony arrived with a stretcher and took Wog to the hospital.

"Your x-ray shows a fracture," said Dr. Gator. Wog was scared.

"What's an x-ray? What's a fracture?" asked Wog.

"An x-ray is a picture of your bones. You have a fractured bone," explained Dr. Gator. "Everything will be just fine. You will have to wear a cast for six weeks. You must take things slowly. Don't let your cast get wet," said Dr. Gator.

Wog thought the weeks would pass slowly. To his surprise they passed very quickly. His friend stopped by to visit and play games with him. They autographed his cast in different colors.

On Saturday Wog's cast was removed. The doctor let him keep it. "Mom, I'm going down to the creek to play," said Wog happily.

"Don't swim out too far," warned Mom.

And Wog. . . .

Questions

1. What animals are in this story? Do you think Bumpy
and Spot were tree frogs? Why?

2. What kinds of things do you know about Wog?

* 3. Why did Bumpy stay with Wog?

* 4. Where would you go for help if your friend fell out of a tree and broke a leg?

* 5. What does it mean to get an autograph from someone?

* 6. Whose autograph would you like if you had a cast?

7. What do you think would be the hardest part of having to wear a cast? What things would be hard to do?

* 8. Why did Wog not listen to his Mom the first time?

* 9. Should Mrs. Green punish Wog for not listening? Why or why not?

* 10. What do you think Wog did when he went to play at the end of the story?

Addie Starts to School

Ann Neel
North Harrison Elementary

"Addie," Mommy called. "Time to get ready for school."

Then Addie remembered. Today was the first day of school. She was a first grader now.

Tears filled her eyes. She couldn't go. She wouldn't go! They could not make her go! She sat back down on her bed and closed her eyes.

"Addie," Mommy called. "Your oatmeal is ready."

Addie sat up and looked around her room. There on the chair were her red shirt and red shorts. They were new for school. Her shoes were red, too. Addie loved red.

Addie loved school, too. She thought kindergarten had been fun. Her teacher was so nice, almost as nice as Mommy. Kindergarten was only half a day. Addie liked going half a day to kindergarten.

But first grade lasted all day. Addie couldn't go. She wouldn't go! They could not make her go! The tears were back.

She heard her mommy coming up the stairs. She rubbed her eyes and got out of her bed. "Poor Mommy," she thought.

"Why aren't you ready?" asked Mommy.

"I can't go," said Addie.

"Why not?" asked Mommy.

Addie felt the tears again, and she couldn't talk.

Mommy sat down on the bed and put her arms around Addie. "Please tell me why you can't go to first grade. You should be happy. You will see your friend Amanda. You have a new red shirt to wear. Your new teacher is so nice. It will be fun, Addie. Why don't you want to go?"

"I do want to go," said Addie, "but I can't. I can't go and stay all day."

"But why?" asked Mommy.

"Because you'll be all alone." cried Addie. Tears ran down her cheeks. She hid her face in her mommy's lap and cried. "I can't go to school and leave you here all by yourself," cried Addie.

"Who will make your coffee in the microwave? Who will plug in the sweeper for you? Who will get the mail at 1:30? Who will eat lunch with you? You need me. I can't go to school all day. You need me here with you."

Mommy patted Addie's back and smiled a little smile. "Sit up Addie, we've got to have a talk," said Mommy.

"Addie, first you were in my body. You were a part of me, and we were both so happy. The time came for you to see the world, so you left my body. Things changed, but we were both so happy," said Mommy.

"Once you only played in the house with your toys, but you grew and wanted to play outside. Things changed, but we were both so happy," said Mommy.

"When you started kindergarten, we were so proud. You did so well and learned so much. You were away from me for half of each day. Things changed, but we were both so happy," said Mommy.

"Today, Addie, you take one more step in growing up. Everyone grows up, Addie. You wouldn't like to stay a baby forever. You will be a first grader. I am so proud of you. You will go to school and do your work. You will have time for fun with new friends. You will eat lunch with your friends."

"But what will you do, Mommy?" asked Addie.

"I will stay home and do my work. I will have fun digging in my flower garden. Some days I will have lunch with my friends. Things change, Addie, but we will be so happy. Your job is to go to school and have the best time you can while learning. I will be here doing my job. We will both be happy doing our jobs," said Mommy.

A smile covered Addie's face. "You mean you won't be sad with me at school?" she asked.

"No, Addie, I'm too happy watching you grow up to ever be sad," said Mommy.

Addie jumped into her new red shirt, shorts and shoes. "Let's hurry, Mommy. I can't wait for first grade to start," yelled Addie as she ran down the stairs. Mommy smiled.

Questions

* 1. Why was this a special day for Addie?

2. Does Addie's room sound anything like your room? Why?

3. What did Mommy cook for Addie?

* 4. What was Addie's favorite color? What is your favorite color?

* 5. Addie liked kindergarten. Did you? Why?

* 6. Do you think Mommy was angry because Addie wasn't dressed? Why?

7. What fun things can happen in first grade?

* 8. Why did Addie not want to go to first grade?

* 9. What jobs did Addie do for her mommy? What jobs do you do at home?

* 10. Do you think Addie will do good work in first grade? Why?

*Recommended for discussion

The Case of the Missing Tonsils

Susan Barwe
Indiana University Southeast

"Oh, where? Oh, where, have my tonsils gone? Oh where? Oh where, can they be?"

Luke could be heard singing these lines to himself on the way home from the hospital. Yes, Luke was kidding around a little. At the same time, his tonsils really had moved away.

For over a year, Luke had been going to Dr. Take for a sore throat. He would go every month or so. Each time, Dr. Take would tell him , "Luke, your throat is red. You have a fever." Dr. Take would then say," Get plenty of rest. Be sure to take the medicine your mother gives you." Luke had heard these words over and over. He would mumble them to himself as the doctor said them.

The last visit was the same and different. Dr. Take went through the same directions. But this time, he went too far. Dr. Take wanted to take his tonsils out. Why would Dr. Take want his tonsils? Didn't Luke need them? Luke had many talks with his parents. He began to understand why Dr. Take wanted his tonsils out.

The big day came. Luke and his parents went to the hospital. A nurse took him to a room. She gave him a

special medicine to put him to sleep. While asleep, he had dreams about going camping. By dinnertime, Luke was awake. His parents broke the news to him. His tonsils were gone. Luke couldn't believe it. He hadn't felt a thing.

A few hours later they were on their way home. And guess what? Luke could have all the ice cream he wanted. He decided it would be better to be well than to have his tonsils.

Luke still thinks about his tonsils sometimes.

Questions

1. What kind of problem did Luke have?

* 2. What do you know about tonsils?

3. What did Luke have to do when he was sick?

* 4. How is Luke like you?

5. Where did Luke go for help?

6. Why did Luke have his tonsils taken out?

7. Why did Luke have to rest and take medicine?

* 8. What do you think will happen after Luke gets home?

* 9. What could have happened if Luke hadn't done what the doctor told him?

* 10. How would you feel if you had to have your tonsils out?

*Recommended for discussion

Wham! Pow! Swish!

Dorothy A. Stemle
George Rogers Clark School

When I was five, I thought I could fly. Probably you thought you could too when you were five. My brother and I played Batman and Robin. He couldn't fly. He was too old. He was seven. So, of course, I was Batman!

My mom reminded me many times that even though I could fly, I should only fly from low rocks or chairs.

We would put on our Batman and Robin clothes. Old sheets, shorts, and our Halloween masks made great costumes! On Halloween, I usually went around as Batman.

Well, anyway, I landed in the hospital. I didn't really fly there, but my mom really flew in our car to get me there. It was like this.

My brother and I were up in our room one morning making our beds. We had bunks beds. I had the top bunk. I was up there when it came to me, " I am Batman, and I can fly! WHAM! POW! SWISH! da-a-dada BATMAN-N-N! Off the top bunk I flew!

The bunk was a little too high. I landed on my elbow. I knew it was broken. It really did hurt, and I couldn't move it.

My mom rushed in and nearly passed out when she saw my arm. I didn't look. We rushed to our doctor. My mom always said, " When you have five children, you must live near a doctor." I wonder why?

Our doctor put a splint on my arm. He told the hospital that we were on our way. I decided it was going to be pretty embarrassing to be in a cast.

When I woke up, I was in a bed in the hospital with all sorts of ropes and things. The nurses said that my arm was in traction. It was tied up in the air. There was a little metal hinge in my elbow. My mom was sitting next to my bed looking pretty upset, but she was glad I was finally awake. She said my dad would be there soon. He had to fly in an airplane from Virginia. He was there on a business trip.

"Why am I in the hospital? Why didn't the doctor just put a cast on my arm?" I asked.

"Well," my mom said, "Bobby, you did a pretty good job of breaking your arm. More than one bone was broken, and the doctor had to operate. He had to put a metal pin in your elbow. We were very worried about you. You will have to stay in the hospital for awhile. THEN you will have a cast!"

"Oh," I said quietly.

Finally, I was able to go to the hospital playroom in a wheelchair. You always go around in a wheelchair even if it is your arm that's broken. Everyone was really nice. I had lots of ice cream, but I was glad when I could go home.

Before the doctor would let me out the door in a wheelchair and my cast, I had to promise to do all my flying in an airplane! Who knows? Maybe I'll be a pilot!

Questions

1. What do you think it is like to be "in traction"?

2. Why did Bobby ride in a wheelchair with a broken arm?

3. Why didn't Bobby just have a cast right away?

* 4. Why is it important to know a doctor in your neighborhood?

* 5. Why is it necessary to get help quickly for an accident?

* 6. Why did Bobby think he could fly?

* 7. Did you think of something like flying when you were five? Tell about it.

* 8. How would you feel if you were Bobby's brother?

9. How did Bobby's mom feel?

* 10. What games should Bobby and his brother play?

*Recommended for discussion

Ungreased Lightning

Melissa Schmidt
Bradie M. Shrum Elementary

Hi! My name is Lightning. I'm a coonhound. I live with my family, Will and Joy, on a small farm. I play in the fields sometimes. I wrestle with my friend, Rags, too. She lives up the road.

One night I started feeling sick. My family was asleep, so I found a quiet place where I could sleep, too. When I woke up it was very late. I'm usually an early riser! I was so thirsty. I went to the little pond and got a big drink. Then I went to the tall field grass to sleep.

When Joy found me, I was walking home from the field. I was walking in a ditch so I could stop to rest and get a drink. I was still so thirsty! Joy took me to a spot where there was fresh food and water.

When Will came home, he and Joy seemed very worried. They called a lot of animal doctors called *vets* . But all the vets were out enjoying a Saturday evening. I wished I could be out playing, too. Finally my family gave me some stomach medicine and put me in their house for the night.

The next morning they found a vet in another town to see me. We drove for a long time to get there. I was very weak, and Will had to carry me in and out of the truck. He even had to lift me onto the vet's table.

The vet, Dr. Trent, checked my blood. He did a lot of other tests. My family held me and talked to me while Dr. Trent did his work. I was sure glad they were there! Dr. Trent said I had been poisoned. My kidneys had shut down, and I was sick because I couldn't go to the bathroom. I was dehydrated. That means my insides were drying out. All I know is that I felt rotten.

I spent the night with Dr. Trent and his wife. They gave me medicine in an I. V. That means they put the medicine and sugar water into my blood through a needle and a tube since I couldn't keep food in my stomach. That night they fed me a little food and water, and I didn't get sick. The medicine was helping.

The next morning, I went for a walk after a small breakfast, and something great happened. I went to the bathroom. Dr. Trent was very happy. He told his wife that my kidneys had "kicked in." All I knew was that I felt a lot better.

This afternoon I got to go home. My family has to give me medicine and watch me carefully. Dr. Trent said I can't "tank up" on food and water all at once. His wife said I was the "perfect patient." I liked her.

When I got home, Rags was there to see me. I sure was glad to see her. I have a long way to go before I'm well again. I must take my medicine and eat and drink like the vet told me. I must exercise every day to build my strength. I must do what my family asks me to do.

I know the next few days will be rough, but I won't be alone. Rags will visit me. So will Joy's and Will's families. My family loves me, and they are going to help me through. Knowing I have all these people who love me is all I need to get better.

Questions

1. What is Lightning's family like?
2. What did you learn about a vet?
3. What is an I.V.?
4. What could have happened if Lightning hadn't gone to the vet?
* 5. Do you think Lightning did anything wrong to cause him to get sick? Why?
* 6. What feelings did Lightning have that a person in the hospital might feel?
7. What would you have done for Lightning if you had been Dr. Trent?
* 8. How would you feel if this happened to your pet?
* 9. How are animal hospitals like people hospitals?
* 10. How do you think Lightning's family felt when he got to come home?

*Recommended for discussion

A Friend for Mrs. Brown

Elaine McKnight
Grace Christian School

Mrs. Brown was so sad. Her only child and his family just moved to Texas. For the first time in her life, she was all alone. "What am I going to do?" asked Mrs. Brown.

"Why not help at the children's hospital?" answered her friend, Mrs. Ross.

Mrs. Brown chose to work in the library at the hospital. She read stories to the children who were in the hospital.

Mrs. Brown noticed a little girl named Karen. Karen never smiled. She was five years old. She had diabetes, or too much sugar in her blood. Karen had to take two insulin shots each day to stay healthy. She could only eat certain foods.

Her parents lived far away. They could only visit on the weekend.

"This little girl is alone, too," thought Mrs. Brown, "just like me."

Mrs. Brown came back to see Karen at night. She helped Karen do things when the nurses were busy. She brought books, coloring books, and crayons to Karen. Mrs. Brown and Karen became very good friends.

One night when Mrs. Brown was leaving, Karen put her arms around Mrs. Brown's neck. "May I call you Grandma?" asked Karen.

"Of course, you may," said Mrs. Brown. There were tears in Mrs. Brown's eyes, but her heart was happy. She wasn't lonely anymore.

Questions

1. What was Mrs. Brown like?
2. Why was Mrs. Brown lonely?
3. Why did Karen have to take two insulin shots each day?
4. What is diabetes?
5. How is Karen different from you?
* 6. What questions would you like to ask Karen?
* 7. How did Karen and Mrs. Brown help each other?
* 8. What might happen to Karen if she didn't take her shots?
* 9. How would you feel if you were left all alone?
* 10. What do you think Mrs. Brown will do when Karen goes home?

* Recommended for discussion

Grandma's Hugs and Kisses

Carol Walton
Grant Line Elementary

Andrew usually loved to visit his Grandma's house. She lived in a big, old, yellow, two-story house. Grandma usually stood waiting for him on the long porch. It ran across the whole front of the house. Grandma always hugged and kissed Andrew first thing. He always let her even though he thought he had outgrown that kind of stuff at eight years old. But Grandma was special.

A swing hanging on one end of the porch was Andrew's favorite place. Sometimes he would swing so high that it really scared his mom. Other times he would lie in the swing looking up at the ceiling while Grandma read a book or the newspaper to him. If the days were sunny, he sometimes helped her in the garden or collected bugs in the net she had sewn for him.

Today was different. Andrew didn't feel like swinging or collecting bugs. And Grandma wasn't waiting on the big porch. She had fallen the day before and broken both an arm and a leg. She had to stay in bed for awhile and keep her arm and leg on a pile of pillows. This was to help make the swelling go down.

Grandma didn't look like she usually did. Andrew could tell she didn't feel well. It frightened him to see Grandma like this. She looked tired and bruised. For the first time, Grandma seemed *old* to Andrew.

Grandma smiled when she saw Andrew. She must have known how he was feeling. "Andrew," she said, "I'm going to need your help. You'll have to be my legs and arms for awhile. But if I do everything my doctor tells me to do, I'll be back to normal in just a few weeks. Will you be the first person to sign my cast?" Andrew thought about what she'd said and decided that she was right. She did need his help. There were things that his Mom and Dad and Grandpa would have to do for her. But some things Andrew could do better and faster than anyone else.

During the next weeks, Andrew took the mail to Grandma and opened it for her. He watered her plants. He ran up and down the steps faster than anyone for things Grandma needed. He even played checkers and worked jigsaw puzzles with Grandma.

Soon Grandma began to look like herself again. Most of the pain and soreness went away, too. Andrew helped her practice walking with crutches. He even got to try using them himself. A few weeks later Grandma began to use only a cane and could do more and more for herself again.

It was a special day for everyone when Grandma got her cast off. Andrew was proud of his grandma and proud of himself, too. He had been a very important part in Grandma's recovery. The first thing she did after the arm cast came off was give Andrew a big hug and kiss.

Now he hoped he'd never outgrow hugs and kisses.

Questions

* 1. How do you think Andrew felt when his Grandma hugged and kissed him at the beginning of the story?

* 2. Why did he feel different at the end of the story?

* 3. What do you feel like when someone hugs and kisses you? Does it depend on who it is?

4. What were Andrew's favorite things to do?

* 5. How do you think Andrew felt about his Grandma?

6. What were some of the things that Grandma usually did for Andrew?

* 7. After her accident why do you think Andrew was frightened when he saw Grandma?

8. After the accident what were some of the things that Andrew could do for his Grandma?

* 9. Why do you think Andrew saw his Grandma as *old* for the first time?

* 10. Why was Andrew proud of his Grandma? Why did he feel proud of himself?

* Recommended for discussion

P.S., Daddy, I Love You

One night at bedtime, Mom and Dad came upstairs to tuck me in. Mom's eyes were red, and Dad had a funny look on his face. They said that Dad would be going away. He wouldn't be living with us anymore. They said that grown-ups sometimes grow apart and aren't happy being married to each other.

I was really sad and scared. I loved both of them. I started to cry. I wondered what was going to happen to me. Who was going to take care of me? Would they ever stop loving ME? I wondered if I had done something to make them stop loving each other. I wondered what I could do to get them back together.

We all hugged each other and cried together. Mom and Dad hugged me and gave me a kiss. They said that they would always love me no matter what I said or did. Their love for me didn't depend on how good or bad I had been.

Sometimes I wished that things could have been the way they were before, but I knew that it wouldn't happen.

I learned many things. I learned that I would be okay. I learned that I would always be loved even though we couldn't be together as a family. Whenever I got sad and lonely, I thought about all the fun times we had together. I tried to think about the good times to come.

Mom laughs and smiles more now. We still have fun going places and doing things together. Dad seems happy, too. He talks to me on the phone, and I go to see him. We have fun together at his house.

I hope Daddy knows that I love him even though we can't live together . . . P.S., Daddy, I love you.

Questions

1. What was the child's problem in the story?

* 2. What do you know about divorce?

* 3. How is the child different from you?

4. How is the child like you?

* 5. How would you feel if you were the child in the story?

* 6. What would you have done if you were that child?

* 7. What did you learn from the story?

* 8. Why did the family hug each other?

* 9. Why does a parent's love not depend on the behavior of the child?

* 10. Where could the child go for help if he/she felt like talking about the problem?

* Recommended for discussion